

14303 (0901.68198)

NOV 30 2006

PATENT APPLICATION

14W

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Richard J. Ernst
Serial No.: 10/687,451
Conf. No.: 8743
Filed: October 16, 2003
For: ROD HANGER FOR SECURING A
ROD TO A SUBSTRATE
Art Unit: 3632
Examiner: Epps, Todd Michael

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

November 27, 2006

Date

[Signature]
Registration No. 40,607
Attorney for Applicant(s)

TRANSMITTAL

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

- (X) Enclosed is a RESPONSE TO AUGUST 25 OFFICE ACTION.
- (X) Copy of Amendment E as filed on September 7, 2006 together with a §1.132 Declaration and PTO stamped return receipt postcard.
- () Petition for Extension of Time (in duplicate), with check in the amount of \$ ____.
- () Charge \$ _____ to Deposit Account No. 07-2069.
- (X) If a Petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for an extension of time for response is required to make the attached response timely and does not separately accompany this transmittal, Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for an extension of time for response in the above-identified application for the period required to make the attached response timely.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

300 South Wacker Drive -Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 360-0080
Facsimile: (312) 360-9315
Customer Number 24978

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By: *[Signature]*

Thomas R. Fitzsimons
Registration No. 40,607



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Pike Expedition, November 1806, Rocky Mountains

2006 SEP 18 AM 9:05

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Chicago, IL 60606-6771

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In re Patent Application of
Richard J. Ernst
For: ROD HANGER FOR SECURING A ROD TO A SUBSTRATE
Serial No: 10/687,451

PATENT
(14303) 0901.68198
TRF:ml
September 7, 2006

Enclosed is a Transmittal (in duplicate); Amendment E; Declaration of Richard J. Ernst under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132; and Certificate of First Class Mailing.

Commissioner for Patents:

Please acknowledge receipt of the above-identified documents by applying the Patent and Trademark Office receipt hereto and mailing this card.

Respectfully,
GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.



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November 27, 2006

Date

Registration No. 40,607
Attorney for Applicant(s)

RESPONSE TO AUGUST 25 OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Office Action mailed on August 25, 2006 was issued to address a typographical error made in the June 8, 2006 Office Action. In particular, the August 25 Office Action notes that the patent cited in the June 8 Office Action as "U.S. Patent No. 6,667,185 to Chin" was in error, and should have been "U.S. Patent No. 6,677,185 to Chin" (i.e., June Office Action provides incorrect patent number). Applicant is grateful for this clarification. The August 25 Office Action is otherwise a duplicate of the June 8 Office Action and cites the same references in making the same rejections as were made in the June 8 Office Action.

Applicant previously filed Amendment E on September 7, 2006 in response to the June 8 Office Action. In Amendment E, Applicant correctly identified U.S. Patent No. 6,677,185 to Chin. The correct patent number was discovered through searching for patents issued to Chin including the cited disclosure. Accordingly, Amendment E as filed on September 7, 2006 is responsive not only to the June 8 Office Action, but also to the August 25 Office Action. No further response to the August 25 Office Action is necessary. A courtesy copy of Amendment E as filed on September 7 is provided herewith, including a copy of a §1.132 Declaration and the PTO stamped return receipt postcard.

Should further clarification be required, or if the Examiner has any questions that can be resolved over the phone, the undersigned attorney requests the favor of a phone conference. Correspondence in this matter should continue to be directed to Ms. Lisa Soltis at her correspondence address of record of ITW Corp, Glenview, Illinois.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By



Thomas R. Fitzsimons
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November 27, 2006

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September 7, 2006

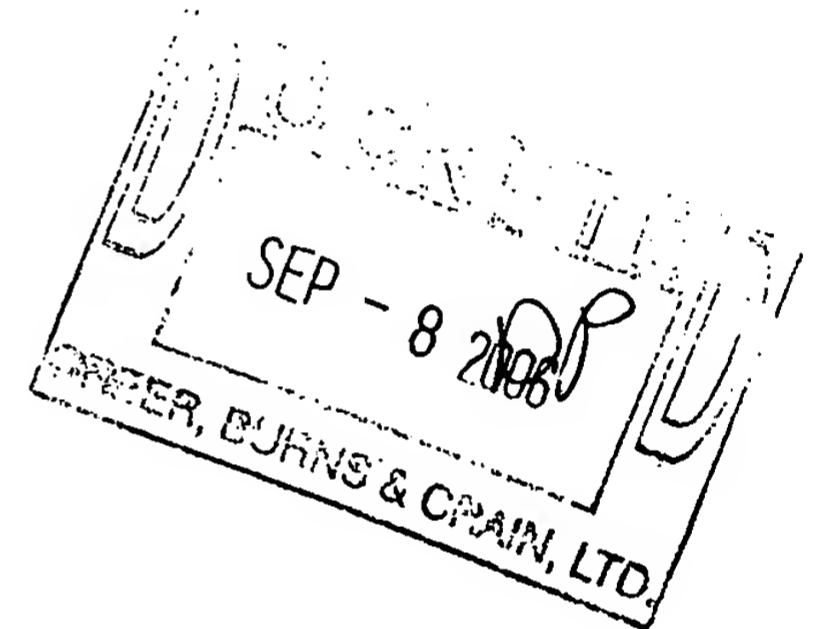
Date


Registration No. 40,607
Attorney for Applicant(s)

AMENDMENT E

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:



In response to the Office Action mailed on June 8, 2006, the Applicant through his undersigned attorney provides the following amendments and remarks.